

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4604

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: WA US PINT
SUBJ: NAMIBIA: REPORTS OF US FINANCE FOR CHIEF KAPUUNO

REF: STATE 247494 (NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. RAND DAILY MAIL OF OCTOBER 7 FEATURED FOLLOWING ARTICLE
RELATING TO SOURCES OF FINANCE FOR HERERO CHIEF CLEMENS KAPUUNO,
WHOSE WIDE TRAVELS HAVE OCCASIONED QUESTIONS ABOUT WHO PAYS
FOR IT. HIS AMERICAN PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISOR JOHN SUMMERS,
IS CITED IN A MANNER IMPLYING THAT HE IS ASSESSING THE
TURNHALLE CONFERENCE FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE US GOVERNMENT.

2. "RIDDLE OF ALI AND LIZ'S KUDU CASH"

"WINDHOEK - MYSTERY SURROUNDS AN AMERICAN-SPONSORED FUND
INVOLVING CHIEF CLEMENS KAPUUNO, THE PROMINENT HERERO
DELEGATE TO THE TURNHALLE TALKS, WHO IS SUPPORTED BY WORLD
HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING CHAMPION MUHAMMAD ALI AND ACTRESS
ELIZABETH TAYLOR.

"THE TWO CELEBRITIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE FUND AND
HAVE TENTATIVELY ACCEPTED THE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP. THE FUND
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IS KNOWN AS THE KUDU FOUNDATION AND IT IS SUPPOSED TO BE

NON-POLITICAL AND NON-PROFIT MAKING.

"BUT LAST NIGHT THERE WERE CONFLICTING VIEWS ON ITS AIMS.

"CHIEF KAPUUO SAID THE PURPOSE WAS TO FINANCE HIS TRAVELLING EXPENSES AND WORK ABROAD. AN AMERICAN PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, MR. JOHN SUMMERS, HAD CLAIMED EARLIER THAT IT WAS TO BUILD SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA ONCE A STABLE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED.

"QUESTIONED ON THE APPARENT DIFFERENCES LAST NIGHT, CHIEF KAPUUO SAID: 'I DON'T WANT TO GO INTO THE DETAILS OF THE FUND AT THIS STAGE.'

"MR. SUMMERS HAD SAID THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT COULD NOT FAVOUR A MODERATE GOVERNMENT UNTIL THE TURNHALLE CONFERENCE PROVED TO BE A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO SWAPO.

"HIS OBJECTIVE WAS TO SEE WHETHER THE TURNHALLE CONFERENCE WAS CREDIBLE." END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF RUMORS OF US BACKING FOR KAPUUO, REPORTED MOST RECENTLY IN KLOPPERS' MEMCON SEPT 18, WE HAVE AVOIDED SEEKING CONTACT WITH ANY OF KAPUUO'S AMERICAN ADVISORS.

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